

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05742 251300Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-12 DOE-15 SOE-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01  
EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07 /134 W  
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R 251247Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9564  
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USLO PEKING  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 05742

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: JA, UR, US, PARM  
SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS ALLEGES U.S. SUPPORTING JAPANESE  
ACQUISITION OF NUCLEAR ARMS

REF: MOSCOW 5003

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. TOKYO DATELINED MARCH 23 TASS  
ARTICLE ON ALLEGED JAPANESE NUCLEAR INTENTIONS WAS  
CARRIED IN MARCH 24 KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. ARTICLE BEGINS BY  
STATING JAPANESE PRESS REPORTED CIA DOCUMENT HOLDING  
(IN THE WORDS OF TASS) THAT "RULING CIRCLES IN JAPAN" ARE  
CLOSE TO MAKING A DECISION ON THE INDIGENOUS PRODUCTION  
IN JAPAN OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND THAT THIS DECISION  
COULD BE TAKEN IN THE EARLY 1980'S OR EVEN EARLIER.  
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ARTICLE THEN GOES ON TO STATE THAT:

-- A U.S. CONGRESSMAN HAS NOTED JAPAN HAS ENOUGH PLUTONIUM  
TO PRODUCE 200 ATOMIC WEAPONS.

-- ACCORDING TO "JAPAN TIMES", JAPAN IS PREPARING TO  
CONCLUDE CONTRACTS WITH ENGLISH AND FRENCH FIRMS ON

PROCESSING OF NUCLEAR FUEL WASTES IN JAPANESE ATOMIC STATIONS IN EXCHANGE FOR SUPPLIES OF THE PROCESSED PLUTONIUM.

-- "IN VIEW OF THE NUMEROUS OFFICIAL STATEMENTS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT THAT THE COUNTRY'S CONSTITUTION 'DOES NOT OUTLAW THE POSSESSION OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS', THIS INFORMATION ACQUIRES A MALICIOUS COLORATION." ARTICLE STATES THE JURIDICAL BASIS FOR THE POSSIBLE SUPPLYING OF ATOMIC WEAPONS TO THE REVIVING JAPANESE ARMY AND HOLDS THAT "THE RULING CIRCLES" DO NOT HIDE THAT, BY "TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS", THEY HAVE IN MIND BOMBS EQUAL IN MIGHT DROPPED ON HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI.

-- "THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT'S COURSE OF STRENGTHENING THE MILITARIZATION OF THE COUNTRY AND EQUIPPING THE ARMED FORCES OF THE COUNTRY WITH MILITARY MIGHT IS CARRIED ON WITH THE ACTIVE SUPPORT OF THE USA, WHICH IS PERSISTENTLY DEMANDING THE STRENGTHENING OF JAPAN'S MILITARY ROLE IN ASIA."

ARTICLE CONCLUDES BY STATING THAT THE JAPANESE PUBLIC CONDEMNS THE REVIVAL OF MILITARISM AND DEMANDS COMPLETE BANNING OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. COMMENT: MARCH 24 ARTICLE  
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IS CONSISTENT WITH RECENT UPSWING IN ANTI-JAPANESE COMMENTARY IN SOVIET PRESS REPORTED REFTEL, WHICH HAS INCLUDED CRITICISM OF ALLEGED GROWING JAPAN-U.S. MILITARY COLLUSION, INCREASING "MILITARISM" IN JAPAN, AND STATEMENTS BY JAPANESE LEADERS (INCLUDING FUKUDA) THAT THE JAPANESE CONSTITUTION DOES NOT OUTLAW JAPANESE ACQUISITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. IT APPEARS TO US, HOWEVER, THAT THIS ARTICLE IS TOUGHER IN CONTENT AND TONE, PARTICULARLY IN ITS CHARGE OF "ACTIVE" U.S. SUPPORT FOR JAPANESE ACQUISITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, BASED ON ALLEGED U.S. DESIRE TO STRENGTHEN JAPAN'S MILITARY ROLE IN ASIA. END CONFIDENTIAL. TOON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ACQUISITION, PRESS COMMENTS, GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, NUCLEAR WEAPONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**TAGS:** PARM, JA, UR, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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